

Local Jobs and Payroll in Wyoming in Second Quarter 2016: Total Payroll Falls by \$183 Million

In January, Research & Planning reported that Wyoming’s unemployment rate decreased to 4.8% in December. After peaking at 5.7% in July 2016, the state’s unemployment rate fell each month from August to December. The unemployment rate comes from the household survey conducted each month by the U.S. Census Bureau for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Unemployment rates can be affected by migration. If, for example, unemployed individuals move out of the state, the unemployment rate may decrease. This report, which focuses on changes in the number of jobs between second quarter 2015 and second quarter 2016, contains data from employers’ quarterly unemployment insurance tax filings (employers have one month after the end of the calendar quarter to submit their tax reports). It provides local detail by county and industry and can help explain more precisely how economic conditions changed in Wyoming between 2015 and 2016.

From second quarter 2015 to second quarter 2016, total unemployment insurance (UI) covered payroll decreased by \$183.5 million (-5.7%). Employment fell by 10,168 jobs (-3.6%) and average weekly wage decreased by \$19 (-2.2%). As in previous quarters, the largest job losses occurred in the mining sector (including oil & gas; 5,409 jobs, or -22.7%). In terms of dollars, UI covered payroll represents approximately 91.5% of all wage and salary disbursements and 43.8% of personal income in the state (U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2014). Analysts have noted that “minerals related employment is one of the key predictors of sales and use tax revenue” in Wyoming (CREG, 2010).

Visit our website at http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/16Q2_QCEW/toc.htm for the types of industry employment and the amount of earnings by county.

Employment rose in five counties and fell in 18 counties (see Table). Total payroll increased in eight counties and decreased in 15 counties.

From second quarter 2015 to second quarter 2016, Teton County added 684 jobs (3.6%) and its total payroll grew by \$12.9 million (6.7%). Job gains were seen in many sectors, including accommodation & food services, construction, administrative & waste services, local government, and real estate & rental & leasing.

Albany County gained 239 jobs (1.5%) and its total payroll rose by \$4.9 million (3.2%). Employment increased in state government, manufacturing, local government (including public schools), administrative & waste services, wholesale trade, and construction. Job losses were seen in accommodation & food services, private educational services, and professional & technical services.

From second quarter 2015 to second quarter 2016, Natrona County lost 3,028 jobs (-7.2%) and its total payroll fell by \$77.0 million (-15.0%). Job losses were seen in mining (including oil & gas), manufacturing, wholesale trade, accommodation & food services, transportation & warehousing, and other services.

Wyoming Average Monthly Employment, Total Payroll, and Average Weekly Wage for Second Quarter by County, 2015 and 2016^a

County	Average Monthly Employment				Total Payroll				Average Weekly Wage			
	Second Quarter		Change n	%	Second Quarter		Change \$	%	Second Quarter		Change \$	%
	2015	2016			2015	2016			2015	2016		
Total	285,186	275,018	-10,168	-3.6	\$3,219,023,155	\$3,035,536,278	-\$183,486,877	-5.7	\$868	\$849	-\$19	-2.2
Albany	15,776	16,015	239	1.5	\$151,888,778	\$156,739,727	\$4,850,949	3.2	\$741	\$753	\$12	1.6
Big Horn	4,463	4,352	-111	-2.5	\$45,140,586	\$42,609,616	-\$2,530,970	-5.6	\$778	\$753	-\$25	-3.2
Campbell	28,043	25,147	-2,896	-10.3	\$382,908,484	\$330,249,375	-\$52,659,109	-13.8	\$1,050	\$1,010	-\$40	-3.8
Carbon	7,411	7,287	-124	-1.7	\$82,633,468	\$81,830,761	-\$802,707	-1.0	\$858	\$864	\$6	0.7
Converse	6,608	5,882	-726	-11.0	\$84,624,235	\$75,937,777	-\$8,686,458	-10.3	\$985	\$993	\$8	0.8
Crook	2,403	2,405	2	0.1	\$23,038,323	\$24,034,609	\$996,286	4.3	\$737	\$769	\$32	4.3
Fremont	16,417	15,707	-710	-4.3	\$166,175,113	\$154,719,371	-\$11,455,742	-6.9	\$779	\$758	-\$21	-2.7
Goshen	4,538	4,447	-91	-2.0	\$40,045,951	\$39,111,463	-\$934,488	-2.3	\$679	\$677	-\$2	-0.3
Hot Springs	2,037	2,022	-15	-0.7	\$18,041,754	\$16,710,654	-\$1,331,100	-7.4	\$681	\$636	-\$45	-6.6
Johnson	3,221	3,157	-64	-2.0	\$28,705,289	\$27,880,590	-\$824,699	-2.9	\$686	\$679	-\$7	-1.0
Laramie	46,384	45,902	-482	-1.0	\$486,793,656	\$491,883,658	\$5,090,002	1.0	\$807	\$824	\$17	2.1
Lincoln	6,074	6,253	179	2.9	\$69,592,503	\$73,472,448	\$3,879,945	5.6	\$881	\$904	\$23	2.6
Natrona	42,027	38,999	-3,028	-7.2	\$512,300,244	\$435,329,988	-\$76,970,256	-15.0	\$938	\$859	-\$79	-8.4
Niobrara	925	929	4	0.4	\$8,232,351	\$8,465,135	\$232,784	2.8	\$685	\$701	\$16	2.3
Park	14,390	14,287	-103	-0.7	\$136,774,369	\$134,863,662	-\$1,910,707	-1.4	\$731	\$726	-\$5	-0.7
Platte	3,862	3,643	-219	-5.7	\$45,810,156	\$41,408,397	-\$4,401,759	-9.6	\$912	\$874	-\$38	-4.2
Sheridan	13,697	13,654	-43	-0.3	\$132,067,098	\$132,762,764	\$695,666	0.5	\$742	\$748	\$6	0.8
Sublette	4,511	3,882	-629	-13.9	\$63,634,775	\$50,489,010	-\$13,145,765	-20.7	\$1,085	\$1,000	-\$85	-7.8
Sweetwater	23,728	22,505	-1,223	-5.2	\$338,076,382	\$311,068,156	-\$27,008,226	-8.0	\$1,096	\$1,063	-\$33	-3.0
Teton	19,099	19,783	684	3.6	\$192,950,198	\$205,812,090	\$12,861,892	6.7	\$777	\$800	\$23	3.0
Uinta	8,844	8,411	-433	-4.9	\$89,034,145	\$81,872,727	-\$7,161,418	-8.0	\$774	\$749	-\$25	-3.2
Washakie	3,878	3,703	-175	-4.5	\$39,881,249	\$38,475,974	-\$1,405,275	-3.5	\$791	\$799	\$8	1.0
Weston	2,390	2,345	-45	-1.9	\$21,865,348	\$21,992,234	\$126,886	0.6	\$704	\$721	\$17	2.4
Nonclassified ^b	4,460	4,302	-158	-3.6	\$58,808,700	\$57,816,092	-\$992,608	-1.7	\$1,014	\$1,034	\$20	1.9

^a preliminary.

^b The employer may be located statewide or in more than one county.

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, developed through a cooperative program between Research & Planning and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Extract Date: January 2017.

Employment in Campbell County decreased by 2,896 jobs (-10.3%) and its total payroll fell by \$52.7 million (-13.8%). Large job losses occurred in mining (including oil & gas), construction, wholesale trade, manufacturing, and other services.

Sweetwater County lost 1,223 jobs (-5.2%) and its total payroll declined by \$27.0 million (-8.0%). Employment fell in mining (including oil & gas), transportation & warehousing, wholesale trade, real estate & rental & leasing, and retail trade.

Converse County lost 726 jobs (-11.0%) and its total payroll fell by \$8.7 million (-10.3%). Large job losses were seen in mining (including oil & gas), construction, accommodation & food services, transportation & warehousing, and professional & technical services.

Fremont County's employment fell by 710 jobs (-4.3%) and its total payroll decreased by \$11.5 million (-6.9%). Job losses occurred in local government, mining (including oil & gas), real estate & rental & leasing, and accommodation & food services.

Preview—Third Quarter (July through September) 2016 Covered Employment & Wages

According to preliminary data, employment declined from third quarter 2015 to third quarter 2016. Total payroll fell by \$139.5 million (-4.3%) and employment decreased by approximately 12,500 jobs (-4.3%). Job losses were seen in mining (including oil & gas; approximately 5,100 jobs), construction (approximately 2,650 jobs), wholesale trade (approximately 1,200 jobs), transportation & warehousing (approximately 1,000 jobs), and manufacturing (approximately 500 jobs).

Industry employment and wages data for Third Quarter 2016 are available at http://doe.state.wy.us/lmi/QCEW_OTY/toc.htm

County level covered employment and wages data for Third Quarter 2016 are scheduled to be released on May 12, 2017.

Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, Research & Planning

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Access R&P's monthly publication on Wyoming's labor market at <http://doe.state.wy.us/LMI/trends.htm>

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